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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/604,813

08/19/2003

Kouji Oohara

SIC-03-024

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08/10/2006

DELAND LAW OFFICE

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EXAMINER

PARRIES, DRU M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/604,813

Applicant(s)

OOHARA, KOUJI

Examiner

Dru M. Parries

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed July 3, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding the Applicant's assertion that no admission was made that it is known to use composite signals to operate a bicycle that automatically changes gears, however, it would have been obvious to make those modifications to Schwaller's invention based on the motivation given in the rejection below.

Regarding the Applicant's question of "Where does Schwaller's switching controller come into play?" and the purpose for composite signals, Schwaller's switching controller stabilizes the power delivered only to the bicycle lamps (which don't need control signals, just power; also, it was never suggested that the lamps needed data/control signals). Also, composite signals (both control and power) are sent to Admission's controller and to the first electrical component (i.e. Turner's LCD display and/or gearshift driving component), and powering and controlling these loads is the purpose for the composite signals to reduce the number of wires.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-13 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwaller (5,247,430) and Prior Art (Admission). Schwaller teaches a power circuit providing power, derived from AC (G) and DC (battery, 8) sources, to a plurality of bicycle

Art Unit: 2836

components (V_L , R_L) (Fig. 4). He also teaches a control and power stabilizing circuit (1) that controls and stabilizes power and voltage to bicycle components via pulsed signal that has ON and OFF components (Col. 3, lines 31-36). He also teaches the stabilizing circuit having a capacitor (Fig. 2). Schwaller also teaches the AC power being provided from a dynamo hub mounted on the front wheel of the bicycle (Col. 9, lines 12-14; Fig. 12). Schwaller also teaches a control circuit (1) that provides a pulsed component via pulsed signal that has ON and OFF components (Col. 3, lines 31-36). Schwaller fails to teach having controllers for automatically changing the gears on the bicycle and the power and control circuit together that provides a composite signal having the power and control signal. Admission teaches bicycles that have controllers for automatically changing the gears ([0002]) and the technology for communicating power and control signals using composite signals (first sentence of [0003]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate a controller for automatically switching the gears into Schwaller's system because it adds an extra feature that makes the bicycle be used more efficiently and to use composite signals throughout the bicycle system to reduce the number of wires used around the bicycle.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwaller (5,247,430) and Prior Art (Admission) as applied to claims 1 and 5 above, and further in view of Gohda (4,609,982). Schwaller teaches a control circuit as described above. Schwaller fails to teach a diode for preventing reverse current. Gohda teaches a stabilizing circuit having a diode (D1) coupled to prevent reverse current to the power circuit (Fig. 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add a diode into Schwaller's invention to prevent reverse current from flowing back into the dynamo.

Art Unit: 2836

5. Claims 14-19 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwaller (5,247,430) and Prior Art (Admission) as applied to claims 1, 12, 13 and 23 above, and further in view of Turner (2002/0014366). Schwaller teaches a control circuit as described above. He also teaches having composite signals being supplied throughout the bicycle control circuit as described above. Schwaller also teaches stabilizing the power and voltage provided to the second electrical component, which comprises a light, being controlled, not by the control signal but, only by just the power/voltage being supplied to the loads (V_L , R_L). Schwaller fails to teach a first electrical component and some second electrical components. Turner teaches a first electrical component, controlled by the control signal, being an LCD (186) to display various data, or a gearshift driving component (166, 168) and a second electrical component being a backlight of the LCD display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the first electrical components into the bicycle because it allows for more control and knowledge about the bicycle system and how it is functioning.

6. Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwaller (5,247,430), Prior Art (Admission), and Turner (2002/0014366) as applied to claims 1, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 19 above, and further in view of Gohda (4,609,982). Schwaller teaches a control circuit as described above. Schwaller also teaches a power stabilizing circuit comprising a power storage device in the form of a capacitor (Fig. 2). Schwaller fails to teach a diode in the stabilizing circuit. Gohda teaches a stabilizing circuit having a diode (D1) coupled to prevent reverse current to the power circuit (Fig. 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to add a diode into Schwaller's invention to prevent reverse current from flowing back into the dynamo.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dru M. Parries whose telephone number is (571) 272-8542. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 8:00am to 5:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on 571-272-2800 x36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

Art Unit: 2836

system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DMP

7-31-2006



BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800